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By Leonor S. Tuck
Leonor S. Tuck

Date: November 12, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Karla M. Robotti

Group Art Unit: 1636

Serial No.: 10/072,525

Examiner: Quang Nguyen

Filed: February 5, 2002

Title: "Biologically Active Molecules for Assay Purposes in a Microfluidic Format"

Atty Docket: 10011206-1

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated November 4, 2003 subjecting Claims 1-59 to restriction in the above-identified patent application.

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C 121 between the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 1-56 and 58-59, drawn to a method for immobilizing a biological molecule in a porous inorganic matrix, a method for preparing a microanalytical device comprising the same entrapped or immobilized biological molecule, and a method of using the same microanalytical device, wherein the biological molecule is a polynucleotide, a gene or a gene fragment, classified in class 435, subclass 6; class 436, subclass 527.

Group II: Claim 1-56 and 58-59, drawn to a method of immobilizing a biological molecule in a porous inorganic matrix, a method for preparing a microanalytical device comprising the same entrapped biological molecule, and a method of using the same microanalytical device, wherein the biological molecule is an enzyme or an antibody or a coagulation modulator

or a cytokine or an endorphin or a peptidyl hormone or a kinin or a receptor or a solubilized membrane protein, classified in class 435, subclass 4, 7.1; class 436, subclass 527, for examples.

Group III: Claims 1-56 and 58-59, drawn to a method for immobilizing a biological molecule in a porous inorganic matrix, a method for preparing a microanalytical device comprising the same entrapped biological molecule, and method of using the same microanalytical device, wherein the biological molecule is a cell membrane or a membrane fragment, classified in class 435, subclass 7.2; class 436, subclass 527.

Group IV: Claims 57 and 59, drawn to a microanalytical device comprised of a substrate and at least one feature particulates of sol-gel having a diameter of from about 10 μ m to about 80 μ m, classified in class 436, subclass 527.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the Group I set of claims (1-56 and 58-59) without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,

KARLA M. ROBOTTI

By 

Michael J. Beck
Reg. No. 40,907

IP Administration
Agilent Technologies, Inc.
Legal Department, DL-429
P.O. Box 7599
Loveland, CO 80537-0599

Date: November 12, 2003

Phone.: (650) 485-3864